

BREAKAWAY CONNECTOR

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method of establishing a fishing line with a breakaway feature includes connecting a first end of a rope to underwater gear and attaching its second end to a breakaway connector without using or having to form a noose or a closed loop in the second end of the rope. The second end is inserted through a passage of the breakaway connector on one side of a breakaway element disposed in the passage, and passed back on the opposite side. When either end of the rope is pulled, a bent section of the rope comes to rest on the breakaway element. Further pulling the rope applies a load on the breakaway element which will break when the load reaches a predetermined level, allowing the rope to slip through the passage. Thus, the rope is completely released, without carrying at the second end thereof a noose or a closed loop which might be caught, e.g., in the mouth of a marine mammal.